

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

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H-01 INR-10 DLOS-09 CG-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 TRSE-00
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161069

FOR DCM THOMPSON FROM NEGROPONTE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS

SUBJECT: TUNA CONSULTATIONS WITH COSTA RICA AND OTHER
LATIN STATES

1. CONFUSION OVER MEXICAN PARTICIPATION IN SAN
JOSE MEETING, IN MY VIEW, MOST REGRETTABLE AND SUGGESTS
TO ME EITHER LACK OF COORDINATION OR CERTAIN DEGREE OF
MISCHIEVOUSNESS ON PART OF MEXICANS. DESPITE FACT THAT
WE FLAGGED OUR SCHEDULING PROBLEM TO MEXICANS DURING
JUNE 5-7, WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS AND DESPITE YOUR RE-
PEATED DEMARCHES TO ROSENSWEIG, I SEE NO EVIDENCE THAT
MEXICANS HAVE MADE SERIOUS EFFORT TO COORDINATE VIEWS ON
SCHEDULING WITH COSTA RICANS.

2. AS I HAVE INDICATED TO YOU IN OUR PHONE CONVERSATIONS
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AND THROUGH RECENT MESSAGES, AFTER JUNE 5-7 TALKS WITH
MEXICANS AND OUR OWN CONSULTATIONS WITH TUNA INDUSTRY ON
JUNE 13-14, WE ARE PREPARED TO RE-ORIENT OUR NEGOTIATING
EFFORTS IN DIRECTION FAVORED BY MEXICANS. THAT IS, WE
ARE PREPARED TO FOREGO EFFORTS TO SAVE IATTC THROUGH
AMENDMENTS TO CONVENTION AND, INSTEAD, MEET INFORMALLY
WITH LATIN STATES CONCERNED, INCLUDING ECUADOR AND PERU

IF MEXICANS CAN GET THEM TO COME, AT A PLACE OF MEXICO'S
CHOOSING IN EARLY AUGUST IN ORDER TO WORK URGENTLY TOWARDS

ENTIRELY NEW CONVENTION. THEN, AS SUGGESTED BY CASTANEDA,
WE COULD HAVE MEETING OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES AS SOON AS
PRACTICABLE AFTER SPECIAL LOS SUMMER SESSION. BUT WE
NEED INDICATION FROM MEXICO THAT COORDINATION IS UNDERWAY
AND THAT SPECIFIC DATES AND PLACES ARE BEING DISCUSSED
WITH OTHER LATIN COUNTRIES.

3. I WILL BE IN SAN JOSE JUNE 26 THROUGH JUNE 29. IT
IS STILL NOT TOO LATE FOR MEXICANS TO AGREE TO PARTICI-
PATE SO THAT WE CAN STEER TALKS IN MOST USEFUL POSSIBLE
DIRECTION. FAILING THEIR PARTICIPATION, I AM PREPARED
TO SEEK TO MOVE TALKS TOWARDS THE KIND OF INFORMAL EARLY
AUGUST MEETING THE MEXICANS WOULD LIKE AND TO FOCUS OUR
DISCUSSION AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ON NEGOTIATION OF A NEW
TREATY RATHER THAN SALVAGING IATTC. BUT, IN LIGHT OF
PAST THREE WEEKS EXPERIENCE, I WOULD FEEL SOMEWHAT UN-
COMFORTABLE DOING THIS IF IT TURNS OUT THAT MEXICANS
ARE NOT GOING TO DELIVER THEIR PART. IN THIS CONNECTION,
IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF MEXICANS COULD CONVEY TO US
WHILE IN SAN JOSE JUNE 26-29 EITHER DIRECTLY OR, PRE-
FERABLY THROUGH COSTA RICANS, THEIR SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS
FOR A TIME AND PLACE FOR AN EARLY AUGUST MEETING. WITH
SPECIFIC DATES AND PLACE IN HAND WE COULD AT LEAST SE-
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CURE AGREEMENT OF PANAMA, COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA TO
ATTEND, LEAVING THEN ONLY PROBLEM OF ECUADOR AND PERU
FOR MEXICANS TO SORT OUT. VANCE

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